

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A free standing ballet bar exercise device comprising:
 - a pair of legs, each leg having a proximal end and a distal end disposed away from the proximal end;
 - support arms pivotally attached to the legs at the legs' distal ends;
 - a horizontal exercise bar mounted between the support arms;
 - a first lower cross bar connecting the legs intermediate their ends;
 - an upper cross bar connecting the support arms; and
 - a backboard attached to the upper cross bar and attached to the first lower cross bar to support the exercise bar in a free standing position.

2. (Original) The free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 1 further comprising:
 - a floor board hingedly attached to the backboard and adapted to lay flat on a floor for supporting the weight of a user.

3. (Original) The free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 2 further comprising:
 - a second lower cross bar connecting the legs at their distal ends.

4. (Original) The free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 3 wherein the support arms are telescopic to enable the height of the ballet bar to be adjusted.

5. (Original) The free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 4 wherein the legs telescopically extend to enhance the stability of the unit.
6. (Original) The free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 4 further comprising a cushioned mat covering the floor board.
7. (Original) The free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 4 further comprising spring loaded knobs mounted at either end of the upper cross bar adjacent the support arms, the spring loaded knobs adapted to lock the support arms at a desired height.
8. (Original) The free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 4 wherein the floor board is joined to the bottom edge of the backboard by at least one hinge.
9. (Original) The free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 8 wherein the at least one hinge is releasably attached via a snap fit onto the first lower cross bar.
10. (Original) The free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 9 wherein at least one hinge is locked into place to the first lower cross bar by a spring loaded cammed handle.

11. (Original) A method of using the free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 4 comprising the steps of:

placing at least a portion of the user's body on the floor board to apply a downward force on the floor board and thus stabilize the device; and
using the exercise bar to stretch or perform exercises.

12. Cancelled.

13. Cancelled.

14. Cancelled.

15. (Currently amended) A free standing ballet bar exercise device comprising:
a pair of legs, each leg having a free, proximal end and a distal end disposed away
from the proximal end;

a lower cross bar connecting the legs intermediate their ends;
a support arm pivotally attached to each leg at the leg's distal end, each support
arm having a bottom end where the support arm is connected to a leg and a top end;
a horizontal exercise bar mounted to the top ends of the support arms;
an upper cross bar connecting the support arms intermediate the bottom and top
ends; and

a backboard rotatably attached to the upper cross bar and capable of extending
substantially vertically to the floor to support the exercise bar in a free standing position;

~~The free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 14 wherein the backboard is~~

releasably attached to the [[first]] lower cross bar.

16. (Original) The free standing ballet bar exercise device of claim 15 further comprising a floor board hingedly attached to the backboard and adapted to lay flat on a floor for supporting the weight of a user.